

Religious Education PREP Newsletter

Issue: January 2017

St. Mary Magdalen Church



IN THIS ISSUE

- Calendar
- Note from Karen Yasik
- Catechist needed in 3rd grade
- Youth Ministry Meeting
- Mother Teresa Canonized

HAPPY NEW YEAR



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Another new year! Another chance to do things differently – to review our lives and see what we can do better. It's so funny, we really have so many "new" years – my calendar runs from August to July, because it matches the school, and that's the facilities use calendar that I have to turn in to the parish by April. When I work on our budget, it matches the fiscal calendar for the parish, which runs from July to June. The universal Church calendar begins liturgically with Advent, and ends in November with the Feast of Christ the King. Then there is the Jewish calendar, which has Rosh Hashanah (their new year) in late September 2017 – so the reality is, no matter what calendar we follow, we are always being given the chance to begin again! It's odd, we have opportunities to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation more often in Advent and in Lent, but for us as Catholics, that's also a chance to reset our lives – to hit the button that brings everything back to the original program and start over. Have we filled our lives with so many extra apps that we've lost sight of what the original us was all about? So as we begin a new year – at least according to the Julian calendar! – let's hit that button and really think about what we're adding back in. Maybe there's something that we would be better leaving in the deleted programs pile this time around, so that we have a little more time with our families and friends and the things that really are most important! May your new year be a blessed one of peace and prosperity, with good health and all of God's blessings abundant for you and your families!

Karen Yasik



JANUARY CALENDAR

January 1 – Feast of Mary, Mother of God

January 6 – the traditional feast of Epiphany, the three kings! Many faith traditions still celebrate this as "Little Christmas" or as their actual Christmas feast, and give their gifts then as the kings did!

January 8 – CLASS FOR ALL GRADES PRE-K THROUGH 8 THIS WEEKEND

January 11 – ALL 8TH GRADE PARENTS – first orientation for Confirmation 2017! Parents will gather with me in the CHURCH HALL at either 9:30AM or 7:00PM for approximately 45 minutes to review the requirements for Confirmation eligibility in November 2017. Please plan to attend one of these gatherings!

January 15 – **PREP Families Brunch** – CLASSES FOR GRADES K-8

January 22 – FAMILY DAY FOOD OUTREACH PROGRAM - regular classes for PreK and K

If you are signed up for the food outreach program, we will be asking you to bring something with you that day! This has traditionally been a favorite event for our classes, & we know that you will enjoy serving others as much as we do!

1st grade – a pound of COOKED ziti in a Ziploc bag with a little oil so it won't stick

2nd grade – a jar of marinara sauce, any kind 15-25oz.

3rd grade – a can of coffee

4th grade – box of individual sugar packets or powdered creamer

5th grade – a head of iceberg lettuce, cored

6th grade – a box of grape tomatoes

7th grade – a cucumber or a bag of mini carrots

8th grade – your permission slip to serve the meal at Sojourner's Place

We will provide cheese, bread, butter and garlic powder, blank cards and foil and pans for all of the meals.

January 25 – 1st Communion parent gathering at 9:30AM and repeated at 7PM in the CHURCH HALL – please plan to attend for important information about the sacrament and the retreat!

January 29 – NO CLASSES THIS WEEKEND, the school has an Open House & it is too disruptive for us.

NEW DATE

PLEASE SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE PREP BRUNCH

Bulletin

FOR THE LATEST BULLETIN:
www.smmchurch.org/sunday-bulletins

Sacraments

FOR SACREMENT INFORMATION:
www.smmchurch.org/sacraments

Religious Ed.

FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAMILY
CATECHESIS SIGNUPS:
<http://www.smmchurch.org/classroom-grades-k-8>



PREP BRUNCH DATE CHANGE

Due to the lack of responses which we are guessing is due to the flu and stomach bug hitting SMM families (like ours!), the brunch date has been changed to January 15th. Please see the updated flyer below and RSVP to Stephanie.Casey@smmchurch.org as soon as possible with the number attending. Thank you for understanding.



WELCOME CATHOLIC STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES!

All religious education students and their families are invited to

**Celebrate Catholic Students & Teachers
Sunday, January 15th,
at the 11:00 AM Mass**

We will be bringing the students over to the church immediately following class that weekend, and class will dismiss a few minutes early to let everyone get to Mass on time.

If you will not be attending Mass and are picking up, be aware that you need to do that by about 10:50!

Pews will be reserved on the ambo side (where the Gospel is preached). Afterwards, all are invited to the Church Hall for a light breakfast. Donations gratefully accepted - either of a favorite treat or funds!

Please RSVP to the Office of Religious Education at stephanie.casey@smmchurch.org with the number who will be attending